



MAYOR RAHM EMANUEL

CITY OF CHICAGO

SAMPLE - OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION

SAMPLE ENERGY BENCHMARKING NOTIFICATION LETTER

According to City records, a building under your ownership or management must comply with the Chicago Energy Benchmarking Ordinance* by **June 1, 2016**:

- *Address*: 123 SAMPLE STREET
- *Chicago Energy Benchmarking ID (required for compliance)*: 999999
 - *Primary Occupancy Use and Size*: COMMERCIAL/INSTITUTIONAL or RESIDENTIAL \geq 50,000 square feet

In 2016, the Ordinance applies to commercial, institutional, and residential buildings larger than 50,000 ft². More than 1,840 buildings reported under the Ordinance in 2015. Buildings must track and report energy use annually and verify data every three years, starting with the first year of compliance.

What do I need to do?

Take action now.

- 1) Appoint a benchmarking lead to set up a Portfolio Manager account.
- 2) Complete the steps on the enclosed **Compliance Checklist** by **June 1st**.



Questions? We Can Help!

- Guidance, training, and other free resources: www.CityofChicago.org/EnergyBenchmarking
- Chicago Energy Benchmarking Help Center: (855) 858-6878 or Info@ChicagoEnergyBenchmarking.org

Only one benchmarking report is required per building. For buildings with multiple owners and/or managers: please work together to submit a single report. **If you believe you received this letter in error**, please submit the appropriate online exemption request form at the website listed above, or contact the Chicago Energy Benchmarking Help Center to let us know you are not the appropriate contact for the building listed above.

Please see the attached Compliance Checklist. Additional resources are listed on the back of this page.



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AFFAIRS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION • ENFORCEMENT AND INVESTIGATIONS
2350 WEST OGDEN AVENUE, 2ND FLOOR • WWW.CITYOFCHICAGO.ORG/ENERGYBENCHMARKING • 855-858-6878

*For more information on the ordinance, visit Section 18-14-101 of the Municipal Code of the City of Chicago.
Rev. 2/2016



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AFFAIRS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

CITY OF CHICAGO

Chicago Energy Benchmarking – Additional Resources

Extensive building support and training opportunities are available through the City and its partners. Please visit the **Chicago Energy Benchmarking Website** (www.CityofChicago.org/EnergyBenchmarking) for information about free offerings, including:

Chicago Energy Benchmarking Guidance Materials

Additional information and guidance materials are available at www.CityofChicago.org/EnergyBenchmarking:

- *Compliance Checklist (attached)*: Summary of required compliance actions
- *Benchmarking Guide*: Step-by-step instructions on how to benchmark, verify, and report
- *Fact Sheet*: Benchmarking overview to help buildings get started
- *Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)*: Additional ordinance information and common compliance questions

Free Training

Sign up for free training on the Chicago Energy Benchmarking Ordinance, ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager Software, and other building resources:

- *Chicago training schedules and registration links*: www.CityofChicago.org/EnergyBenchmarking

Whole-Building Energy Data

ComEd and Peoples Gas provide aggregated, building-level energy data to facilitate energy benchmarking:

- *ComEd* (electricity): www.ComEd.com/EnergyUsageData
- *Peoples Gas* (natural gas): www.PeoplesGasDelivery.com/Business/Aggregation.aspx

Pro-Bono Data Verification

Qualifying buildings may be eligible for pro-bono data verification through US Green Building Council - Illinois Chapter, ASHRAE - Illinois, American Institute of Architects - Chicago, and local volunteers:

- *Pro-bono data verification details and application*: www.CityofChicago.org/EnergyBenchmarking

ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager

The US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) offers free online resources and training to help buildings get started with energy benchmarking and take action to improve energy efficiency:

www.EnergyStar.gov/Benchmark

Energy Efficiency Funding and Other Resources

Programs are available to help you identify and implement energy- and cost-saving opportunities to improve your building's performance. Take advantage of these free assessments and cash incentives:

- *ComEd's Smart Ideas for Your Business*: www.ComEd.com/BusinessSavings
- *Peoples Gas Natural Gas Savings Program*: www.PeoplesGasDelivery.com/Business/Rebates.aspx

Compliance Checklist

This Compliance Checklist is intended to guide you through the compliance process for the Chicago Energy Benchmarking Ordinance. Please do not submit this form. All steps below should be completed by **June 1, 2016**. Please visit the **Chicago Energy Benchmarking Website** for step-by-step instructions, training sign-up, and other free resources: www.CityofChicago.org/EnergyBenchmarking.

1. Get Started - Suggested Completion Date: March 28, 2016		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Determine whether your building(s) must comply in 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residential buildings 50,000-250,000 square feet must benchmark (Step #2), verify (Step #3), and report (Step #4). Commercial, institutional, and residential buildings that complied in 2014 and/or 2015 must benchmark (Step #2) and report (Step #4). If you believe your building(s) is not required to comply, please submit an exemption form: http://www.CityofChicago.org/EnergyBenchmarking
<input type="checkbox"/>	Identify a benchmarking lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate a building staff member or 3rd party partner. Arrange for in-house or 3rd party data verification (Step #3).

2. Benchmark Your Building(s) - Suggested Completion Date: April 25, 2016		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Create a Portfolio Manager account	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit http://www.energystar.gov/porfoliomanager You may use existing Portfolio Manager accounts and profile(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gather basic information required by Portfolio Manager and set up property profile(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required info for various property use types is available at: http://www.energystar.gov/buildings/tools-and-resources/list-portfolio-manager-property-types-definitions-and-use-details Refer to the <i>Benchmarking Guide</i> at http://www.CityofChicago.org/EnergyBenchmarking
<input type="checkbox"/>	Request whole-building data. You are strongly encouraged to take advantage of aggregated, whole-building electricity and natural gas data provided by local utilities at no additional charge to covered buildings.	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Electricity: Request whole-building 2015 electricity use through ComEd's Energy Use Data System: www.ComEd.com/EnergyUsageData
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Natural Gas: Request whole-building 2015 natural gas use data from Peoples Gas: www.PeoplesGasDelivery.com/Business/Aggregation.aspx
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Fuel Types: Refer to monthly bills for other fuel types (ex: chilled water, steam, diesel, oil, etc.)
Note: You may also enter monthly energy use data directly from energy bills, if whole-building data is available (i.e. if you have access to all the meter(s) providing energy to the building.)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Enter property uses & details into profile(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the DETAILS tab, use the ADD ANOTHER TYPE OF USE menu to select a property use. Click ADD and enter requested info, and repeat for add'l property uses.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Enter energy use data for all fuel types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the ENERGY tab, click ADD ANOTHER METER. Enter requested info, and repeat for add'l meters or fuel types. Note: Chicago's ordinance does not require water or cost data.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Enter your Chicago Energy Benchmarking ID(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the DETAILS tab, click EDIT under UNIQUE IDENTIFIERS (IDs). From STANDARD IDs, select CHICAGO ENERGY BENCHMARKING ID. Enter the 6-digit ID (listed on notification letter).

Chicago Energy Benchmarking

3. Verify Building Data - Suggested Completion Date: May 9, 2016 (for first-time compliers only; official data verification is required every three years)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Generate a Data Verification Checklist in Portfolio Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the REPORTING tab, under ENERGY STAR PERFORMANCE DOCUMENTS, click DATA VERIFICATION CHECKLIST. Specify SINGLE YEAR timeframe, ending DEC 31 2015 using the dropdown boxes, and download the DATA VERIFICATION CHECKLIST. Buildings do not need to submit the signed Data Verification Checklist to the City, but buildings are required to produce it upon request.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Have a recognized professional review and sign the Data Verification Checklist and save it for your records.	<p>Recognized data verifier credentials (as of February, 2016):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional Engineer (State of IL) Licensed Architect (State of IL) Building Operator Certification Level I (MEEA) Building Energy Technology Certificate (City Colleges of Chicago) Certified Energy Manager (AEE) Building Energy Assessment Professional (ASHRAE) Facility Engineering Technology Course 220 (offered by IUOE Local 399 and Triton College)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Add data verifier information to Portfolio Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the DETAILS tab, scroll down to the PROPERTY NOTES field. In the text field, type: verifier's name, organization, email, recognized credential, unique identifying information (ex: license or certificate number), and date of verification.

4. Report to the City – Required Completion Date: June 1, 2016		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Generate and review the building's report in Portfolio Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Click on the reporting link at www.CityofChicago.org/EnergyBenchmarking. Scroll down to YOUR RESPONSE, select building(s) from the PROPERTIES dropdown box, and click GENERATE RESPONSE PREVIEW. Review any data alerts or other instructions that may appear. In the TEMPLATES AND REPORTS table, find the row for 2016 CHICAGO ENERGY BENCHMARKING REPORTING; under the ACTION menu in that row, select DOWNLOAD PREVIEW IN EXCEL from the dropdown box. Review the resulting Excel preview data that will be shared with the City (fields that do not apply to the building will be left blank).
<input type="checkbox"/>	Submit the report to the City through Portfolio Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the REPORTING tab, in the TEMPLATES AND REPORTS table, find the row for 2016 CHICAGO ENERGY BENCHMARKING REPORTING; under the ACTION menu, select SEND RESPONSE (Note: reporting to the City is distinct from sharing data in Portfolio Manager's SHARING tab). Review any data alerts or other instructions that may appear. Enter requested information, e-sign with your Portfolio Manager username and password, and click SEND DATA. Save the ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager confirmation email.

Questions? We Can Help!

- Instructions, training, and other free resources: www.CityofChicago.org/EnergyBenchmarking
- Chicago Energy Benchmarking Help Center: (855) 858-6878 (M-F, 9:00am-5:00pm) or email Info@ChicagoEnergyBenchmarking.org